

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS MEETING

LANE COUNTY MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

August 16, 1977

Pursuant to public notice given to the Register Guard for publication on August 11, 1977, to Newservice 16, and distributed to persons on the mailing list of the District, the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of Lane County Mass Transit District was held at the City Hall in Eugene, Oregon, on August 16, 1977, at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Richard A. Booth, Treasurer
Jack J. Craig
W. Gene Davis, Secretary
Daniel M. Herbert, President, presiding
Kenneth H. Kohnen, Vice President
Fred C. Dyer, General Manager
Mavis Skipworth, Recording Secretary

News media representatives:

Marvin Tims, Register Guard
Lois Lindsay, Springfield News

Absent:

Glenn E. Randall

MINUTES: Minutes of the regular board meeting of July 19, 1977 and the adjourned board meeting of August 2, 1977, were unanimously approved as distributed.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: The chairman invited public comment and there was no response.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Mr. Bonney, chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee, advised that the next meeting will be held September 13, and suggested that election of a new chairman should be considered.

REPORTS: Regular monthly reporting for finance and budget was presented for board information. The 1977-78 fiscal year Marketing Plan was distributed to board members present.

INCOME TAX: Mrs. Loobey reported on a meeting of August 10th between representatives of the Department of Revenue and Richard Bryson, Michael Merrell and herself, pertaining to the proposed income tax ordinance. She distributed copies of a subsequent letter from Mr. Bryson in which he suggested that Section 4 of the ordinance, concerning partnerships, be left as it is and to leave the matter for interpretation and application by the Revenue Department as a legal matter rather than have the board of directors treat it as a political question. Mr. Bryson's letter reported that the Department

of Revenue wished to give further consideration to the possibilities of a withholding tax; that the district's representatives agreed to explore the possibility of minor changes in the service area boundaries to simplify administering the ordinance; and that he was in agreement with a request from the Revenue Department that they revise Section 6.05 to give more detail concerning change of status of residents during the year.

Ms. Loobey elaborated on technical problems still to be resolved, such as the difference in the fiscal year of the district and calendar year of tax collection, and assurance of compliance by taxpayers if a separate form is used. She advised that the Revenue Department estimated a cost of \$245,000 for the first year to collect approximately \$5.3 million on a 1% income tax; that although subsequent years would not include the initial expenses, the cost of audit could offset any reduction.

In following discussion, Mr. Booth and Mr. Herbert commented that the cost of administering the income tax appeared to be excessive in comparison to the cost of collecting the payroll tax.

The staff was directed to work with the Department of Revenue toward a resolution of the technical difficulties prior to the September regular board meeting.

REPORTS: Regular monthly reporting from the Departments of Operations and Planning & Development was presented for board information.

EVALUATION METHODS SUBCOMMITTEE: The quarterly report of the Evaluation Methods Subcommittee was distributed for board information. Mr. Kohnen reported that during the first part of the quarter, the committee concerned itself with further study of the Jasper/Lowell route, then returned to the continuing study of system performance on the fixed route and Dial-A-Bus. He noted that the subcommittee had devised six different measurements in graphic form for the fixed route and Dial-A-Bus and had discussed how these could be used in setting district policy. He spoke of the difficulty of defining efficiency of operation as many variables affect the measurement. The staff prepared a one page report of a hypothetical study in reduction of cost subsidy per person trip from the current \$1.05 to \$.95. The report, which was distributed to board members, contained three strategies: 1) reducing fares, 2) reducing service, and 3) increasing marketing. He said the study was undertaken not as a goal to accomplish, but to point up the relationship of the variables.

He advised that the subcommittee will now study the progress toward meeting the schedule of the Transit Development Program and the adopted goals and objectives, to establish a means of evaluating system performance.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Davis advised of a pilot program being conducted in Provo, Utah, using hydrogen fuel for buses. He offered to obtain a twenty minute film which is available, and the board members expressed interest in viewing it.

The meeting was adjourned.


Secretary